

Expert group on action and support of the Executive Committee of the Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage

Approach to developing the first draft rolling plan of action

Background note

INTRODUCTION

As per its terms of reference, the Expert Group on Action and Support (ASEG) will develop a rolling plan of action (PoA) at its first meeting. This background note serves to establish a common information basis among the members of the group for their first meeting, taking place virtually during the weeks of **17 – 28 May 2021**. This note complements the information package previously shared.

ROLES, RESPONSIBILITIES AND TIMEFRAME

The ASEG assists the Executive Committee of the Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage (ExCom) in fulfilling mandates from Parties relating to action and support, including finance, technology and capacity-building, for averting, minimizing and addressing loss and damage associated with the adverse effects of climate change.

The rolling PoA serves to operationalize the strategic workstream on action and support under the Warsaw International Mechanism. The standard planning horizon for the rolling plans of action of ExCom's expert groups is two years.

Upon its finalization and prior to the implementation phase, the draft rolling PoA is required to be endorsed by the ExCom to ensure that the efforts to be undertaken by the ASEG are in line with the mandates entrusted by the Parties. The ExCom will endorse the draft rolling PoA as soon as possible interessionally to enable the rapid transition to the implementation phase.

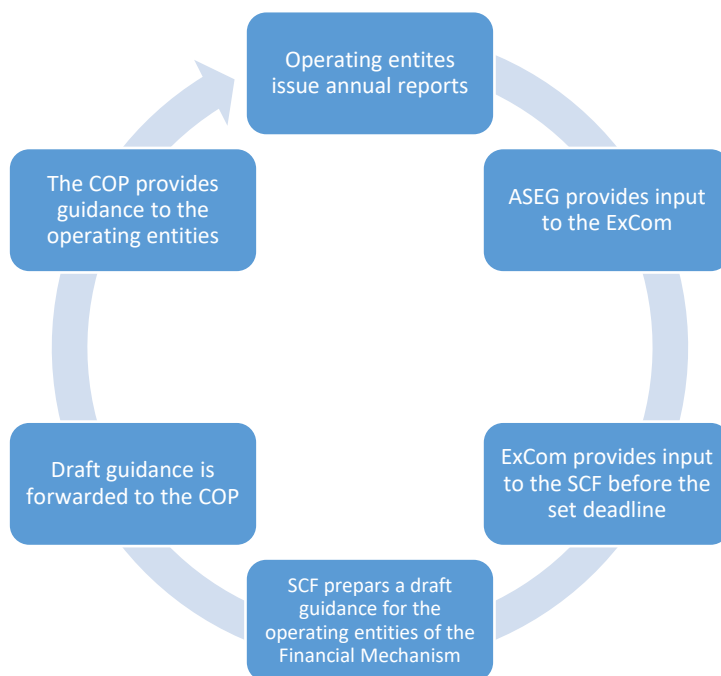
The members of the ASEG act as important catalyzers within their broader communities of the activities the group will undertake and the knowledge it will produce or collate. The ASEG will strive to produce materials that can be directly used by stakeholders and countries in their efforts in this important area. The members may request the secretariat to facilitate the production of draft materials for subsequent consideration and finalization by the group

The ASEG, along with all other expert groups of the ExCom, will update on its progress at the regular meetings of the ExCom, usually held in spring and fall. A brief written summary should be made available in advance of the meeting, complemented with an oral update during the meetings.

The ExCom will consider the inputs and recommendations provided by the expert groups for inclusion, as appropriate, in its annual reporting to Parties at COPs/CMAs.



In advising the ExCom with respect to providing input to the Standing Committee on Finance (SCF), the ASEG also needs to take into account the annual cycle and process of the SCF concerning its work to prepare draft guidance to the operating entities of the financial mechanism (see figure below).¹ This year the deadline for the provision of input to the SCF by the ExCom is 15 September.



BROAD VISION FOR THE ROLLING PLAN OF ACTION

As per its terms of reference, the ASEG is entrusted with the undertaking of the following activities:

- a) The activities referred to in paragraphs 37² and 39³ of decision 2/CMA.2;
- b) The collection, compilation and dissemination of information on the available sources of support under and outside the Convention and the Paris Agreement for activities relevant to averting, minimizing and addressing loss and damage in developing country Parties;
- c) Collaboration with the thematic expert groups of the Executive Committee to undertake the work referred to in paragraph 26 of decision 2/CMA.2;
- d) Collaboration with relevant bodies and organizations under and outside the Convention and the Paris Agreement pursuant to decision 2/CP.19, paragraph 5(c)(iii);

¹ Decision 2/CMA.2, para 37.

² Decision 2/CMA.2, para. 37: Requests the Executive Committee to further engage and strengthen its dialogue with the Standing Committee on Finance by providing input in line with decision 2/CP.19, paragraph 5(c)(ii), to the Standing Committee on Finance when, in accordance with its mandate, it provides information, recommendations and draft guidance relating to the operating entities of the financial mechanisms under the Convention and the Paris Agreement, as appropriate.

³ Decision 2/CMA.2, para. 39: Requests the Executive Committee, in collaboration with the GCF, as an operating entity of the Financial Mechanism, to clarify how developing country Parties may access funding from the GCF for the development of funding proposals related to the strategic workstreams of the five-year rolling workplan of the Executive Committee, consistently with paragraph 38 of this decision, and to include information thereon in its annual reports.

- e) The organization of events in conjunction with relevant meetings and conferences, including the NAP Expo and regional events, to share information and experience relating to accessing available sources of support for averting, minimizing and addressing loss and damage associated with the adverse effects of climate change, in collaboration with relevant constituted bodies and organizations under and outside the Convention and the Paris Agreement, as appropriate;
- f) The analysis and identification of enabling conditions for effective implementation of risk transfer facilities and social protection schemes in the context of comprehensive risk management, as appropriate.

The planned activities under the PoA should aim to enhance cooperation and facilitation in relation to action and support. In this regard, the knowledge base to be created/deepened should be converted into products that support efforts at the global, regional and national levels.

As a first step towards developing its draft PoA, the ASEG will be invited to consider the following guiding questions at the kick-off session of its first meeting:

- Is there additional information that you might need in advance to enhance your ability to contribute to the development of a Plan of Action based on the activities listed under a) – f) above?
- Under each activity listed under a)-f) above, what could be critical deliverables by the ASEG in the following time frames: 2021, 1st half of 2022, 2nd half of 2022, 2023 onward? Standing and one-off deliverables?
- What specific areas of expertise do you and/or your organization have vis-à-vis the listed activities?
- In what specific ways can you/your organization’s current or planned work contribute to delivering any/each of the listed activities? What are the specific modalities and timeframes?

SCHEDULE

The first meeting will be conducted virtually. The secretariat will support the following means:

- A group mailing list aseg@lists.unfccc.int with all members and the secretariat team;
- Video/teleconferencing via MS Teams;
- Collaborative space for document sharing and joint work on the MS Teams platform.

The following preparatory material has been developed: a compilation of the members’ profiles, an information package, and a background note.

The first meeting of the ASEG comprises four live sessions via Teams and offline work in between, over a two-week period, to ensure the delivery of the finalized draft rolling Plan of Action by the end of the meeting, which will be forwarded to the ExCom for endorsement.

The UNFCCC secretariat will help facilitate any virtual connections required to work in between the live sessions.

Depending on the progress of work, Day 3 and 4 may be collapsed into one live session.

| Date/time | Live session on Teams | Off-line |
|---|---|----------|
| Monday 17 May, 20:00–22:00 CET | <u>Day 1: Kick-off session</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Members’ introductions • The objectives of the expert group and its first meeting | |

| Date/time | Live session on Teams | Off-line |
|--|---|---|
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Background on action and support in the context of loss and damage work under the UNFCCC • Plenary discussion based on the guiding questions and TOR activities • Organization of work during the meeting weeks | |
| 18-19 May | | Experts to provide further input on the guiding questions via the collaboration space |
| Wednesday 19 May, 20:00–22:00 CET | <u>Day 2</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identification of approaches for implementing the TOR activities in a plenary and/or breakout group setting | |
| 20–23 May | | Results of breakout groups’ work to be sent to the secretariat Secretariat to compile elements of work into a draft PoA and make it available on the Teams collaboration space |
| Tuesday 25 May, 20:00–22:00 CET | <u>Day 3</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plenary discussion based on the draft PoA, including on cross-cutting or common activities across activities to ensure coherence and effective sequencing of actions | |
| 26 May | | Secretariat to revise the draft PoA based on the discussion on Day 3 and to make it available on the Teams collaboration space |
| Thursday 27 May, 20:00–22:00 CET | <u>Day 4</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Finalization of the draft PoA • Next steps | |